

Acleris abietana (Hübner, 1819-22), a Tortricid moth new to the British Isles

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Amongst some Lepidoptera submitted for identification in autumn, 1965, by Mr. D. L. Coates was a female *Acleris* collected on 11th October, 1965, in his mercury-vapour light-trap at Aberfoyle, Perthshire. The specimen resembled *A. hastiana* (Linn.) but its rather long wings and numerous scale-tufts suggested a different species which I was able to recognise from continental illustrations as *A. abietana* (Hübner). Mr. J. D. Bradley, of the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, kindly confirmed the identification by dissection and comparison with continental material in the British Museum (Natural History).

The following spring Mr. Coates was lucky enough to collect another specimen: a male of a very similar form came into his trap on 14th March and provided confirmation that the species is resident in that area.

Acleris abietana appears to be rare in continental collections and no doubt it is a difficult species to collect. According to Hannemann (1961) the larvae feed in May and June on spruce (*Picea abies* (L.) Karst.), spinning the needles together, and prefer the higher trees. Razowski (1966) gives also *Pinus* and *Abies* as foodplants. The moth emerges in autumn and hibernates. Perhaps, as in *A. hastiana*, adults are seen more often after hibernation than before. With Mr. Coates I made a search of spruces in the area in June, 1966, but we found no sign of larvae; however, Hannemann's reference to high trees suggests that larvae might usually be out of reach.

The distribution on the continent is throughout northern and central Europe as far south as the Italian Alps.

In general appearance (fig. 1) *A. abietana* is not unlike a rather long-winged *hastiana*. In *abietana*, however, there is a strong curved ridge of raised scales bordering the basal patch of the forewing, thickened to form a tuft just above the fold: at the middle of the inner edge of the central fascia is another large scale-tuft, and two smaller tufts are at the edges of the fascia where it meets the dorsum. The colour is normally some shade of brown, the basal patch, vaguely defined median fascia and numerous strigulae towards the apex somewhat darker. The figure is drawn from the female specimen from Aberfoyle, but to emphasise the markings it is not as dark as the original and more like some of the continental specimens in the British Museum (Natural History). Less variation has been recorded in this than in some other species of *Acleris*, the most striking forms showing a development of white patches on the forewings: in extreme forms these occupy most of the wing area; four forms are illustrated by van Deurs (1956).

The male and female genitalia are illustrated in figs. 2 and 3 respectively, the male drawn from a continental specimen in the British Museum (Natural History) and the female from the Aberfoyle specimen. Both show good distinctions from other British species: in the male the short aedeagus with two long cornuti is characteristic (the specimen from Weimar figured has a shorter third cornutus), also the short pointed projection from the sacculus: in Hannemann (1961) and Razowski (1966) the sacculus is shown more flattened with the projection pointing ventrad giving a very different appearance to the valva.

Acleris abietana was described by Hübner (1819-22, *Sammlung europäischer Schmetterlinge* VII: Tortrices. Pl. 44, figs. 275, 276) in the genus *Tortrix* Linnaeus. An earlier *Tortrix abietana* was described by de Villers (1789, *Linnaea ent.* 4: 532) from specimens collected by Paykull in Sweden. However, no type material of de Villers' species can now be found and as the species cannot be recognised from the original description de Villers' name must remain a *nomen dubium*, though it is possible that it refers to the same species.

REFERENCES

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 Razowski, J., 1966. *World fauna of the Tortricini (Lepidoptera, Tortricidae)*. Krakow, 576 pp.
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The generic name *Ilione* (Diptera, Sciomyzidae)

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In a recent number of *Ent. Rec. and Jour. of Variation*, vol. 78, p. 229, J. E. Collin stated: ". . .the generic name of *Ilione* Hal. (1839) published in Curtis' 'Guide' with *Tetanocera lineata* Fln., as its sole included species, became a valid generic name. . ."

I find no reference to Curtis' Guide "1839". Sherborn (*Index Animalium*, p. 3116) cites "*Ilione* A. H. Haliday in Curtis, *Guide Brit. Ins.*, ed. 2, 1837, 288.—Dipt." and makes no mention of a *lineata* (nor *-us*, *-um*) in connection with a genus *Ilione*. Neave (*Nomencl. Zool.*, vol. 2, p. 767) makes the same citation of *Ilione* and adds "[n. n.]" (*nomen nudum*). I have checked a copy of Curtis (1837, ed. 2) and find the following on page 280, under Addenda:

. . . THAIS Hal.
 15. *silvatica*
 HYDROMYIA Desv.
 ILONE Hal.
 CHIONE Desv.

21. *communis* Desv. . . etc., and on page 288, the name "Ilione Hal." listed in the index between "Idioptera Macq." and "Ilithya 205.", and no other mention of *Ilione*. There is listed, on page 271, under *Tetanocera* Dum.: "*19. *lineata* Fall." I have also checked the first edition of Curtis' Guide (1827) and find no mention of the name *Ilione*. Collin's statement thus appears to be incorrect.

The next mention I find of *Ilione* is in Westwood (1840, *Intr.*, v. 2, p. 146): ". . . and *Ilione* Hal. (*I. lineata* Hal.) are referred by Mr. Haliday to the genus *Tetanocera*." Then, in 1864, Schiner (*Fauna Austr.*, v. 2, p. 61) cited "Ilione. Halid. pt." in synonymy under *Elgiva* Meigen and on page 63 cited "(Gatt. Ilione Halid.)" at the end of the paragraph of his key to *Elgiva* leading to the species *lineata* Fallén. Hendel (1901, *Term. Füz.*, v. 24, p. 141) cited "*Ilione* Halid. (*cucularia* L. und *rufa* Panz.)" in a key to